

Having thus described the preferred embodiments, the invention is now claimed to be:

1. A vacuum system for a motor vehicle comprising:
  - a receptacle mounted to a motor vehicle;
  - a casing selectively mountable to the receptacle;
  - a source of suction carried by the casing,
  - a dust receptacle carried by the casing, and
  - a flexible vacuum hose fluidly connected with the dust receptacle, such that dirt and entrained air are drawn through the hose and into the dust receptacle by the source of suction; and
  - a power cord for electrically connecting the source of suction with a power source.
2. The vacuum system of claim 1, wherein the receptacle comprises a console mounted to a wall of the vehicle.
3. The vacuum system of claim 2, wherein the console is mounted within a passenger compartment of the vehicle.
4. The vacuum system of claim 1, wherein the receptacle defines a cavity and wherein the casing is slidably received within the cavity.
5. The vacuum system of claim 4, wherein the receptacle and the casing cooperate to define a tongue and groove assembly for sliding the casing into and out of the cavity.
6. The vacuum system of claim 4, wherein the casing comprises a front panel with a hand hold for selectively withdrawing the casing from the cavity.
7. The vacuum system of claim 1, further comprising:
  - an outlet port defined on the casing for outlet air exiting the source of suction;
  - an exhaust grill defined on the casing in spaced manner from the outlet port; and,
  - a control member which selectively directs the outlet air to the outlet port or to the exhaust grill.

8. The vacuum system of claim 1, wherein the casing defines a first recess for storing the flexible vacuum hose when the hose is not in use.

9. The vacuum system of claim 1, wherein the casing defines a second recess for storing tools.

10. The vacuum system of claim 1, further comprising a filter, which filters dirt from the entrained air entering the dust receptacle, carried by the casing.

11. The vacuum system of claim 10, wherein the filter is selectively mounted within the dust receptacle.

12. The vacuum system of claim 1, wherein the dust receptacle is removably mounted within the casing.

13. The vacuum system of claim 12, wherein the casing comprises a front panel which is selectively movable to provide access to the dust receptacle within the casing.

14. The vacuum system of claim 1, wherein the power source is a battery of the motor vehicle.

15. A vacuum system for a vehicle comprising:  
a console mounted to the vehicle, the console defining a cavity;  
a casing which forms a drawer of the console and is selectively received in the cavity;  
a source of suction carried by the casing,  
a dust receptacle carried by the casing, and  
a vacuum nozzle in fluid communication with the source of suction and dust receptacle for vacuuming dirt from the vehicle.

16. The vacuum system of claim 15, wherein the vacuum nozzle is selectively connectable with the dust receptacle by a flexible hose.

17. The vacuum system of claim 15, wherein the nozzle is positioned upstream of the dust receptacle and the source of suction is positioned downstream of the dust receptacle.

18. A vacuum cleaner comprising:  
a receptacle mounted to a motor vehicle;

a casing selectively mounted to the receptacle, the casing comprising:  
a dirt container,  
a suction source, and  
a filter positioned upstream from said suction source.

19. The vacuum cleaner of claim 18, wherein the filter is selectively mounted to said dirt container.

20. The vacuum cleaner of claim 19, wherein the filter protrudes into the dirt container.

21. The vacuum cleaner of claim 20, wherein a cyclonic airflow chamber is defined in the dirt container around the filter.

22. The vacuum cleaner of claim 19, wherein a cyclonic airflow chamber is defined in the dirt container upstream from the filter.

23. The vacuum cleaner of claim 18, wherein the filter comprises a pleated planar material.

24. The vacuum cleaner of claim 23, wherein the filter is approximately cylindrical in shape.

25. A vacuum cleaner for a vehicle comprising:  
a vehicle chassis;  
a casing selectively mounted to the vehicle chassis, the casing comprising:  
a dirt container,  
a suction source spaced from the dirt container,  
a cyclonic airflow chamber defined in the casing, the cyclonic airflow chamber communicating with the suction source and with the dirt container.

26. The vacuum cleaner of claim 25, wherein the cyclonic airflow chamber includes a tangential inlet and an axial outlet.

27. The vacuum cleaner of claim 26, further comprising a filter

mounted to the casing.

28. The vacuum cleaner of claim 27, wherein the filter extends into the dirt container.

29. The vacuum cleaner of claim 28, wherein the cyclonic airflow chamber is at least partially defined between the filter and an interior surface of the dirt container.

30. The vacuum cleaner of claim 25, wherein the dirt container is selectively removable from the casing.

31. The vacuum cleaner of claim 30, further comprising a filter selectively mounted to the dirt container.

32. The vacuum cleaner of claim 31, wherein the filter includes a first end wall which extends into the dirt container and a second end wall which is aligned with a wall of the dirt container.

33. The vacuum cleaner of claim 32, further comprising a first gasket located adjacent the second end wall of the filter.